

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended):      An image pickup apparatus comprising:

a lens hood mounted on a front side of an optical system, wherein said lens hood is composed of a base portion on a mounting side and a tubular portion on the front side, said base portion and said tubular portion are detachably coupled to each other; and

another lens is contained in an inside of said lens hood located between said base portion and said tubular portion when said another lens is mounted on the front side of said optical system.

Claim 9 (previously presented):      An image pickup apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein a dowser is provided on an inside of said tubular portion of said lens hood, and an incident light is contracted by an opening of said dowser.

Claim 10 (previously presented):      An image pickup apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein said tubular portion and said base portion of said lens hood are detachably coupled to each other by a bayonet claw.

Claim 11 (previously presented):      An image pickup apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein a cap is detachably attached to said opening in said dowser of said tubular portion of said lens hood.

Claim 12 (previously presented):      An image pickup apparatus as set forth in claim 8, wherein said another lens is a wide conversion lens for widening an image pickup angle.

Claim 13 (previously presented): An image pickup apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein said dowser is provided on the inside of said tubular portion in a biased state in an optical axis direction, said tubular portion can be detachably coupled to said base portion irrespectively of whether said dowser is in a posture of being close to said optical system or in a posture of being apart from said optical system, and said tubular portion is coupled to said base portion in such a posture that said dowser is apart from said optical system where said conversion lens is mounted on the front side of said optical system and contained in the inside of said lens hood.

Claim 14 (previously presented): An image pickup apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein said dowser is provided on the inside of said tubular portion in a biased state in an optical axis direction, said tubular portion can be detachably coupled to said base portion irrespectively of whether said dowser is in a posture of being close to said optical system or in a posture of being apart from said optical system, and said tubular portion is coupled to said base portion in such a posture that said dowser is close to said optical system, where said conversion lens is not mounted.